



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

Frontline  
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VIGILANCE ★ SERVICE ★ INTEGRITY

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## 1. CBP announces successes of Arizona Border Control Initiative Phase II



*Commissioner Bonner and CBP Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar discuss ABCI Phase II at a press conference in Washington D.C.*

This Thursday, Commissioner Bonner and Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar [announced](#) the accomplishments of Arizona Border Control Initiative (ABCI) Phase II and expressed their determination to, in the Commissioner's words, "continue law enforcement operations until we have and maintain control of the entire Southwest border." CBP's comprehensive strategy for securing America's borders directly supports the agency's priority anti-terrorism mission—preventing terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the U.S.—by reducing the flow of illegal aliens and disrupting smuggling operations.

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## 2. DHS expands expedited removal authority along Southwest border

On September 14, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced the [expansion](#) of expedited removal authority to include the entire Southwest U.S. border. Non-Mexican illegal aliens who have spent less than 14 days in the U.S., and who have been caught within 100 miles of the border, will now be returned to their countries of origin as soon as circumstances allow—and without their release into the United States—by CBP Border Patrol agents. This expansion of authority is intended to disrupt human smuggling in that area substantially.

### 3. Largest port in South America joins CSI

On September 22, Brazil's port of Santos, the largest port in South America and a major export center, became the 39<sup>th</sup> operational [Container Security Initiative](#) port worldwide, targeting and pre-screening maritime cargo containers intended for U.S. ports. Santos is located on the Atlantic coast about 100 kilometers from Sao Paulo.

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### 4. ACE collections top \$1 billion since July 2004

CBP's Automated Commercial Environment, a processing system designed to streamline the duty collection process, took in [\\$1.3 billion](#) in duties and fees between July 2004 and August 2005. In July of last year, the agency first enabled account holders to make payments on a monthly basis rather than transaction by transaction. Looking forward, CBP sees high growth potential for monthly payment accounts, as they still comprise only nine percent of the total duties and fees CBP collects.

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### 5. Registration opens for 2005 CBP trade symposium



*Commissioner Bonner speaks at the opening of the last CBP trade symposium, held in January 2005.*

CBP has opened registration for its annual trade [symposium](#), to be held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C., from November 2-4. The symposium, which is aimed at the international trade and transportation communities, carries the theme "Globalizing Trade Security and Facilitation—Realizing the Promise of the WCO Framework." It will feature joint discussions on CBP's international trade security initiatives and programs by CBP personnel, members of the trade community, and other government agencies. A detailed agenda will be posted shortly to CBP's website.

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### 6. CBP deploys assets in preparation for Hurricane Rita

The federal government is rapidly setting the [groundwork](#) for a response to Hurricane Rita, placing assets and supplies in the areas where the storm may hit. Among the responding agencies are the components of the Department of Homeland Security, including CBP. For rapid needs assessment, the CBP Air program is supplying two helicopters and a Cheyenne Aircraft. For image transmission to be used in assessments conducted after the hurricane, the program is supplying a video-capable airplane. Other participants include the Department of Defense, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Labor.